

Gearlist

Skitouring on Glaciers

Please let us know early if you need rental gear. Reserved kit will be handed out by the guide on location. We can only lend out items that are marked with ▲ in the gearlist.

Please note:

- We do not have ski(-touring) boots for rent!
- If you want to use our rental skis, we need to know the length of your boot-sole in mm and your body height.

Technical Equipment

<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	touring skis	For high alpine skitouring on glaciers, lightweight, medium to mid-width skis without a strong rocker are best. We have those available to demo if you like.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	(pin)-bindings	Pin-style has de facto become the standard. Lightweight, an efficient pivot point, direct transmission of your riding power. There are models available with proper toe-release for those with knee niggles.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	climbing skins	Skins should be neatly countour-cut to your skis. Edges remain free. Keep them well glued, loosing skins is a pain. Mohair slides better when walking, synthetic is easier to walk with without sliding. In the spring, it can be worth applying some wax to impregnate the skin against sticky snow.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	ski crampons	Make your life much easier and safer on hard packed firn. On some ski-tours they are absolutely mandatory.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	skiing poles	For skitouring, adjustable poles are best. You can shorten them on the downhill, or put them on the pack for climbing and bootpacking. Please make sure you have powder baskets on. A long insulated grip is nice to hold low on traverses.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	harness	Lightweight and small packing size, we won't hang around in it for too long. Special skitouring bod-style harness make it easy to be put on and off even with boots on your feet.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ski helmet	High-speed with the powder-planks, a slip on hard firn, rockfall in the couloir and avalanches: there are many reasons on a ski-tour to put the lid on.
<input type="checkbox"/>	ski goggles	Bring it if you want to see something in a whiteout.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	avalanche beacon	Three antennas is a must nowadays. With those you can solve a single burial easy and fast.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	avalanche shovel	Don't skip on durability and shovelability: take a metal blade and a long (telescopic) handle. Shoveling takes more time than searching, so make it efficient and save weight elsewhere.
<input type="checkbox"/> ▲	avalanche probe	Quickly assembled, large diameter for torsion resistance and sufficient length.

	optional	avalung (backpack)	An ingenious system that allows burial victims to breathe under the snow. Those who don't want to haul around or cough up the dough for an avalanche bag have a lightweight and low priced alternative.
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	2 free locking carabiners	E.g. one pear-shaped „HMS“ plus something light and small.
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	1 skitouring piolet	Length: 50-55cm. Not more. Lightweight (Aluminium). You'll use it exclusively in firn / snow if at all, so you don't need some high-tech iceclimbing axe.
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	skitouring crampons	And again: lightweight. Aluminium is the material of choice. Toe-wire and heel-lever suits ski boots well.
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	min. 1 ice screw	A modern screw with a crank handle, not one of those ancient corkscrew things. 16 to 19 cm length. Aluminium screws are super light weight but will suffer in glacier ice. It should be hanging on it's carabiner...
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	(Prusik-) cord for crevasse rescue	Classic: 5-6mm diam. cord, 1 x 4m, 1 x 60cm. Modern: sewn slings / webbing made from dyneema / spectra or PA/PE mix., 1 x 120cm and 1 x 60cm. Works just as well and more. Ingenious: an additional 5 meters of 5,5mm aramide (kevlar) tech-cord. All hanging on their own screwgates...
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	1 sling 120cm	Length is always usable length, which means doubled up. PA/PE mix material gives us best-of-both-worlds. Plus one screwgate...
<input type="checkbox"/>	▲	1 autolocking carabiner	3-way twistlock, or better „safelock“ type like the Petzl ball-lock.
<input type="checkbox"/>		1 skitouring backpack	You don't want more than 35L of volume for skitouring and even multi day ski traverses. What you might want is a separate compartment for safety equipment, a helmet net and proper ski attachments. Velcro ski fasteners are nice to have as well when carrying.

Clothing

<input type="checkbox"/>		skitouring boots	From stiff, hard and heavy to supple and ultralightweight. In the end, it's a matter of preference if you choose an up- or downhill oriented boot. For longer skit traverses maybe don't go with a freeride boot for comfort's sake. And maybe break it in before.
	speaking of	hut slippers	In the Alps, you virtually never need them. A respectable hut will provide ‚hut-crocs‘ for their guests.
<input type="checkbox"/>		skitouring pants	Soft- or hardshell. Venting zippers are ace under the scorching april sun. Normally a softshell and thermal underwear is enough to be well prepared for any winter weather.
	optional	long / thermal underwear	Temperature differences can be extreme in the spring. Eventually you will be glad to have one.
	speaking of	hut / dinner / sleeping trousers	No one expects you to show up in freshly ironed dress pants for dinner. If you would like to have (and carry) an additional pair of trousers, then maybe you can use it underneath your touring pants in case it gets cold.
<input type="checkbox"/>		mountain jacket	Rugged, windproof, water-repellant but above all breathable. Again: soft-shell. You will wear this 90% of the time and we don't recommend waterproof membranes when you don't need them. They make you sweat. And those who sweat will be chilly.
<input type="checkbox"/>		hardshell (rain-) jacket	You will carry this 90% of the time in your backpack. So make it something light and packable.
<input type="checkbox"/>		sun cap	A must on a glacier. The best caps that cover your ears... unfortunately don't look too cool. But don't worry: the guide will be sporting on of those as well.

<input type="checkbox"/>	1 pair of thin gloves	Softshell, neoprene or leather. Pure fleece gloves are not very grippy.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 pair of warmer gloves / mitts	Only skip the reserve gloves if it's really warm. Or the group can arrange to carry at least a pair of common emergency fingerwear.
<input type="checkbox"/>	hat	This should fit comfortably under a helmet. You should try and dispense with the bobble.
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 pairs socks	One pair of trekking socks for walking and the essential requirement for the second pair: light weight.
<input type="checkbox"/>	baselayer	Transports moisture away from your skin, which makes you feel drier and most importantly warmer. Merino wool's wicking action does not work quite as well, but it smells less. And the visually questionable insider tip: mesh-shirts.
<input type="checkbox"/>	speaking of insulation layers	These naturally depend completely on the temperature. Fleece is still a classic. But synthetic or down fillings are simply unbeaten in their weight-warmth ratio. In winter an insulated ,emergency' jacket is more than nice to have.
<input type="checkbox"/>	speaking of change of clothes	On a hut, no one stinks alone. A second t-shirt an fresh set of underwear should be enough.
Miscellaneous		
<input type="checkbox"/>	headlamp	Those have become really impressive. Still, a lightweight model is often enough if no really early starts are planned.
<input type="checkbox"/>	money	Best in local currency. Otherwise the exchange rate might bring tears to your eyes. Not every hut accepts payment by card.
	optional alpine club member card	In the Alps, all alpine clubs share reciprocity and you may be entitled to a discount on the overnight costs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	sleeping bag liner	A (silk-) liner / hut sleeping bag is on most huts obligatory for hygienic reasons.
	optional blister kit	The namesake compeed or a multifunctional roll of medical (Leuko-) Tape.
<input type="checkbox"/>	personal medication	Please inform the guide if there are any medical conditions he should know about like asthma, allergies or diabetes!
<input type="checkbox"/>	toiletries	In case you need to carry it: please keep it small and lightweight. You might otherwise be deeply disappointed if there's no running water at the hut anyway... Wet-wipes or germicide anyone?
	speaking of day food	As per gusto. But certainly you can save weight by only carrying some bars, chocolate et. al. and victualling at the hut. The guide's trick to carry small packs.
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 - 1,5L bottle	Most huts serve / sell drinking water exclusively in 1,5L PET-bottles. If you use one of those, you can simply replace it with a full one. And they weigh virtually nothing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	thermos flask	In really cold weather a sip of hot tea can make your day. The ratio of hot to cold drinks to bring is up to you. Maybe some tea for chilly mornings and later on in the midday sun something cold.
<input type="checkbox"/>	sunscreen	SPF 50. Period. Not every member of the group has to carry one.
	optional first-aid-kit	Group gear will be coordinated with the guide before the start. If you have one or you are an emergency doctor, just bring it along to the meeting point.



optional bivy bag	Depending on the undertaking, we are planning for more or less places inside one of those. If you have a bivy bag, you can bring it along to the meeting point.
☐ sunglasses	With fresh snow, these should rather be category 4.
optional earplugs	Word has it there might be snorers on huts. Nice as well: earphones, mp3 and a sleep-timer.
optional powerbank	For those who cannot do without: often there's a central place in the hut to charge electric gadgets. If you don't want to leave your phone unattended, you might want to bring a powerbank.
optional packing bags	To organize stuff if we are to leave things at the hut during the day.
optional repair - Kit	Some allen keys, screwdrivers, pliers, skin repair kit, cable ties, wax, wire, tape and tech-cord should always be around on a longer trip. Admittedly, the guide will bring those, but nothing wrong with having a spare set...